

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 21 October 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000856

OUTCOME: 0 - Whole of Portfolio

Topic: Numbers of People in Aged Care

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Polley, Helen

Question:

- a) Minister Ley has quoted on numerous occasions that "five per cent of people are in residential aged care" Please outline if this is five per cent of all Australians? All Australians within a certain age bracket? Or all those accessing aged care services?
- b) Please outline how many people across the nation and state by state are accessing the Commonwealth Home Support Program; Home Care Packages; and Residential Aged Care and what proportion they make up.

Answer:

The "five per cent" figure quoted refers to the proportion that residential aged care recipients represent of all older Australians. Here, older Australians refers to those aged 65 years or over, plus Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians aged 50 to 64 years.

Information about numbers of people accessing residential aged care (excluding flexible services), home care packages (excluding flexible services) and all Home and Community Care (HACC) services across the nation and state by state, plus the proportion these people make up of the population of older Australians, as at 30 June 2015, is in Table A.

Table A: Numbers and proportions^(a) of people accessing care, by programme type
(30 June 2015)

		NSW	VIC	QLD	WA	SA	TAS	ACT	NT	Australia
Residential care	No.	61,267	46,399	31,877	14,884	16,491	4,464	1,982	456	177,820
	%	5.0%	5.1%	4.5%	4.2%	5.5%	4.6%	4.1%	1.8%	4.9%
Home care packages	No.	19,452	16,089	10,149	5,684	4,650	1,629	1,031	822	59,506
	%	1.6%	1.8%	1.4%	1.6%	1.6%	1.7%	2.1%	3.3%	1.6%
All HACC^(b) (2014-15)	No.	290,973	294,249	205,408	74,656	108,721	30,149	13,892	2,973	1,021,023
	%	23.9%	32.7%	29.1%	21.1%	36.3%	31.0%	28.9%	12.0%	28.0%

- a) Proportions are as of the estimated population of older people aged 65 years or over, plus Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians aged 50 to 64 years, as at 30 June 2015.
- b) Includes Commonwealth HACC and Victoria and Western Australia HACC programs. Data for number of recipients for All HACC are for all distinct clients receiving care at any time during 2014-15.